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It covers (1) U.S. Federal government documents, especially those from executive branch departments and those from the Congressional branch - - Committees, the U.S. General Accounting Office, and the Congressional Budget Office; (2) policy briefs from major private think tanks, especially those in Washington; and (3) major reports from national professional associations. A few new high quality, high relevance think tank-sponsored books are also listed.

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Reports

Item#1

BREAKING THE IMMIGRATION STALEMATE. Brookings Institution. William Galston. October 2009.

The Obama administration has committed itself to immigration reform. Yet despite all the shortcomings of current policy, threats to the rule of law, exploitation of vulnerable newcomers, real and perceived competition with Americans for jobs and public resources, reasonable compromise on immigration will

be exceedingly difficult. The divide between elite and public opinion on this issue remains deep and wide. It is a critical factor in the lack of trust that pervades today's political culture, says the report.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/reports/2009/1006_immigration_roundtable/1006_immigration_roundtable.pdf [PDF format, 36 pages].

Item#2

THE COMPREHENSIVE CONGRESSIONAL HEALTH REFORM BILLS OF 2009: A LOOK AT HEALTH INSURANCE, DELIVERY SYSTEM, AND FINANCING PROVISIONS. The Commonwealth Fund. Sara R. Collins et al. October 2009.

The report provides an overview of key provisions of the two separate comprehensive health reform bills passed by the five committees of jurisdiction in the U.S. Congress. While the general frameworks of the bills are very similar, they differ in a few key respects. Most important, the Senate Finance Committee bill does not include a public plan option or a requirement that employers offer coverage, nor does it reform for more than one year Medicare's formula for setting physician fees; the House bill includes all of these features.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

http://www.commonwealthfund.org/~media/Files/Publications/Fund%20Report/2009/Oct/Congressional%20Bills/1333_Collins_comprehensive_congressional_hlt_reform_bills_2009_v2.pdf [PDF format, 41 pages].

Item#3

EMPIRE STATE EXODUS: THE MASS MIGRATION OF NEW YORKERS TO OTHER STATES. Manhattan Institute for Policy Research. Wendell Cox and E.J. McMahon. October 27, 2009.

The Empire State is being drained of an invaluable resource, the people. From 2000 to 2008, in both absolute and relative terms, New York experienced the nation's largest loss of residents to other states, a net domestic migration outflow of over 1.5 million, or 8 percent of its population at the start of the decade.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://www.empirecenter.org/Documents/PDF/RBTemptResearch-Bulletin-Migration-2009-3.pdf> [PDF format, 16 pages]

Item#4

GLOBAL CORRUPTION REPORT 2009: CORRUPTION AND PRIVATE SECTOR. Transparency International. September 2009.

The private sector plays a pivotal role in fighting corruption worldwide, says the report. It documents in detail the many corruption risks for businesses, ranging from small entrepreneurs in Sub-Saharan Africa to multinationals from Europe and North America. More than 75 experts examine the scale, scope and devastating consequences of a wide range of corruption issues.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://www.transparency.org/publications/gcr> [HTML format with links].

Item#5

GROWING U.S. TRADE IN GREEN TECHNOLOGY. American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research. Steven F. Hayward. October 7, 2009.

The two main issues that should be considered when assessing the prospects for increased export potential for American energy technology are the actual dynamics of the present market environment and the cross-cutting factors that will come to bear on how trade flows will unfold in the real world, according to the testimony.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://www.aei.org/docLib/10709%20Hayward%20Testimony.pdf> [PDF format, 4 pages].

Item#6

HOW WE KNOW THE RECOVERY PACKAGE IS HELPING. Economic Policy Institute. Josh Bivens. October 29, 2009.

According to the author, a multitude of evidence makes clear that most of GDP's third quarter growth can be traced to the Recovery Act, and that the long-term health of the economy is going to depend on pushing forward, not pulling back, with even more stimulus measures.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

http://epi.3cdn.net/bb4f1bd7339f12b9a3_4im6bxb5c.pdf [PDF format, 5 pages].

Item#7

THE OUTLOOK FOR CONSUMER SPENDING AND THE BROADER ECONOMIC RECOVERY. Brookings Institution. Karen E. Dynan. October 29, 2009.

How long will the economic recovery take? Karen Dynan testified before the Joint Economic Committee that there is a great deal of uncertainty about the strength and speed of the nation's recovery, with gradual expansion being the most likely economic scenario. She says that consumer spending is likely to grow modestly over the next few years because of weak income growth, higher saving and lower borrowing. Policymakers have options to bolster the recovery but they should be mindful of the long-run costs, particularly in terms of the budget deficit, she says.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/testimonies/2009/1029_recovery_dynan/1029_recovery_dynan.pdf [PDF format, 7 pages].

Item#8

PAKISTAN'S NEW GENERATION OF TERRORISTS. Council on Foreign Relations. Jayshree Bajoria. October 26, 2009.

According to the backgrounder, Pakistan has emerged as a terrorist sanctuary for some of the world's most violent groups, including al-Qaeda, the Taliban, and homegrown militants, that threaten the stability of Pakistan as well as the region.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

http://www.cfr.org/publication/15422/pakistans_new_generation_of_terrorists.html?breadcrumb=%2F [HTML format, various paging].

Item#9

PAY OFF DEBT, SPEND, OR SAVE? THE 2008 ECONOMIC STIMULUS PAYMENTS. Bureau of Labor Statistics. October 23, 2009.

In May 2008, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) started mailing Economic Stimulus Payments, also called tax rebates, to an estimated 130 million income tax filers. Nearly half (49 percent) of recipients reported using the rebate mostly to pay off debt.

Full Text:

http://www.bls.gov/opub/ted/2009/ted_20091023.htm [HTML format, various paging].

Item#10

PROMOTING SAVINGS AS A TOOL FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT. New America Foundation. Jamie M. Zimmerman and Shweta S. Banerjee. October 2009.

Scholars, policymakers, and practitioners of microfinance are increasingly turning their focus toward devising and offering effective and accessible savings services for the poor. Not only have experts argued that demand for savings services greatly exceeds that of microcredit, but many also contend that savings-led programs and products, with a focus on building assets, may be more effective than credit in providing a pathway out of poverty, according to the report.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://www.newamerica.net/files/Matched%20Savings%20Issue%20Brief%20FINAL.pdf> [PDF format, 12 pages].

Item#11

THE PROSPECTS FOR NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND. Economic Policy Institute. Richard Rothstein. October 13, 2009.

Secretary of Education Arne Duncan has called for a speedy re-authorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), branded the "No Child Left Behind" law (NCLB) by the Bush administration. After expiring in 2007, NCLB has hung on with annual temporary extensions; its provisions are now so controversial that no Congressional majority has been able to coalesce around a proposal for modification. But "re-authorization can't wait," Duncan said recently, and he has pledged to get Congress to enact a new education law in 2010.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://www.epi.org/publications/entry/pm149/> [HTML format, various paging].

Item#12

SEEKING SOFT-POWER, BUT NOT BY THE BOOK. YaleGlobal. Jonathan Fenby. October 26, 2009.

China's participation as the guest of honor at the recent Frankfurt Book Fair was filled with plenty of histrionics: walk-outs, gag orders, and a firing. There were, however, over 2000 copyright deals inked with various Chinese publishers. But beyond the sensational, the event shows China's uneasy practice of soft power, according to author Jonathan Fenby. Beijing is striving to present itself to the world not just as a manufacturing hub, but also as a country rich in the domain of ideas, art, and culture. This endeavor includes, among other things, participation in the Frankfurt Book Fair as well as allowing the publication of seedier fare on Chinese life that would have been unheard of even a decade ago.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/seeking-soft-power-not-book> [HTML format, various paging].

Item#13

THE STATES OF MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE. Pew Research Center. October 15, 2009.

On the national level, the Census Bureau survey showed that a shrinking share of Americans are married with 52% of males ages 15 and older and 48% of females ages 15 and older. The proportion of Americans who are currently married has been diminishing for decades and is lower than it has been in at least half a century. The age range used in standard Census tabulations dates back to the days when more people married as young teenagers. Among Americans 18 and older, the proportion currently married, but not separated, is 55% for men and 50% for women.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1380/marriage-and-divorce-by-state?src=prc-latest&proj=peoplepress> [HTML format, various paging].

Item#14

STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY COLLEGES' INFLUENCE ON ECONOMIC MOBILITY. Pew Economic Mobility Project. Diana Furchtgott-Roth et al. October 20, 2009.

The report shows that community colleges are an important stepping stone for students of all backgrounds, income levels and high school achievements to improve their economic mobility prospects. Earning a community college degree boosts earnings by an average of \$7,900 annually, an increase of 29 percent over those with only a high school diploma. For low-income, high-achieving high school students in particular, community colleges serve as a springboard to further postsecondary education; more than half eventually transfer to four-year programs, and three-quarters of those who transfer earn a bachelor's degree.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

http://www.economicmobility.org/assets/pdfs/PEW_EMP_COMMUNITY_COLLEGES.pdf [PDF format, 43 pages].

Item#15

UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD TRADE COLLAPSE. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. Calista Cheung and Stephanie Guichard. October 29, 2009.

The paper shows that world demand, to which trade has become more responsive in recent decades, can explain most of the collapse in world trade, but that tight credit conditions have likely amplified the short-term trade response.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

[http://www.ois.oecd.org/ois/2009doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT00006C2A/\\$FILE/JT03273128.PDF](http://www.ois.oecd.org/ois/2009doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT00006C2A/$FILE/JT03273128.PDF) [PDF format, 35 pages].